

## REALTY IN DEMAND; HOUSES SCARCE

Activity in Property Much Greater Than Usual So Early in the Fall.

## OUTLOOK BRIGHT FOR VERY GOOD SEASON

Agents and Investors Both Returning from Summer Outings, and Large Transactions Are Looked For. Much Building in Lee District.

Already the real estate business is beginning to take on the fall activity, and many sales of importance were made during the past week. Generally the season does not fully open before September 15th, but the prospects are now that by that time most of the offices will be very busy. The army of people who took to the country in the first hot days of the early summer is beginning to return in large detachments. Among them are many of the members of the real estate fraternity, who have been keeping away from the blazing sidewalks, so that on their return in the cool days of the fall they could take up the ends of their business and pursue it with renewed vigor. Everything points to the season just being launched as one of the best in the history of the city.

**Few Houses For Rent.**  
Daily the rent lists are growing smaller and smaller, and many people who have given up their houses, thinking that others would be available at much lower prices, have come to realize that if they do not get in with the early ones they will probably not be able to get houses at all, or, at any events, such dwellings as they had planned for the winter. Hundreds of houses that two weeks ago looked as though they would go through the winter without occupants have been taken, and many more are going each day. It is safe to say that at the end of the season the rent lists will be small indeed.

Both in the buying and selling of property and in building Lee District continues to be the most active spot in the city. During the first twelve months of the office of Building Inspector more than \$1,000,000 in building and other improvements was spent in this section, south of Broad and between Lombardy Streets. Building in all other sections of the city and suburbs also continues very active, and, as a rule, the new houses are being taken as fast as they are ready.

**Ahead of Other Cities.**  
What is being done in this line is best shown by the report of the Building Inspector's office, which has become one of the most important in the city government. Comparing its operations with those of other cities of much greater population it is found that this office is not only ahead of most of them from a comparative standpoint, but in some cases actually does more than cities of twice the size of Richmond.

For the first year that the Building Inspector has charged the city building statistics show that more business was done here than in Cincinnati, which is more than two and one-half times as large as Richmond. During the month of July, 1908, the demand for lots in Lee District was more than in the entire city of Baltimore.

**Activity in Suburbs.**  
Suburban property, which has been active through the summer, continues to show a steady increase. It is steadily climbing up, and will no doubt be booming before the season reaches its height.

The Glinter Park Company is constantly beautifying and developing this property, making new sections ready for the home-builder and also keeping the older portions in fine shape. No other territory in the vicinity of Richmond is being developed so rapidly. The demand for lots in Glinter Park is excellent, and the number of inquiries from substantial business men for homes there is increasing. At the present rate of building and selling there will not be a single lot left by the close of 1909.

The citizens are planning to develop many marked improvements during the next few months, which will add to the comfort and the pleasure of the residents. The large majority of the purchasers of Glinter Park property are live, progressive men, who take great pride in making their community as nearly ideal as possible.

## THE ROAD TO URBANNA

Final Survey and Estimates of Cost Made.

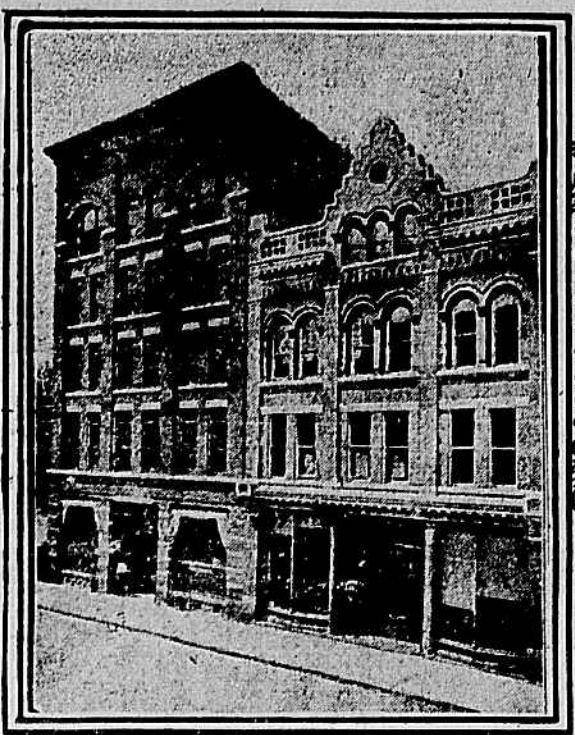
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
WEST POINT, VA., September 5.—A party of gentlemen from Richmond is taking up the final survey of the proposed railroad between West Point and Urbanna, in Middlesex county. These gentlemen are to go over the route, make calculations as to the grade, the cost and the necessary changes in the old route made by the engineers. The length of the proposed road is twenty-two miles. It will traverse a section of country rich in farming and trucking and noted for its fish, oysters and game. One of the greatest crops will be the drawbridge across the Mattaponi, to connect that road with the Southern. The bridge will cost more than the rest of the road.

## TOBACCO IN JAMES CITY

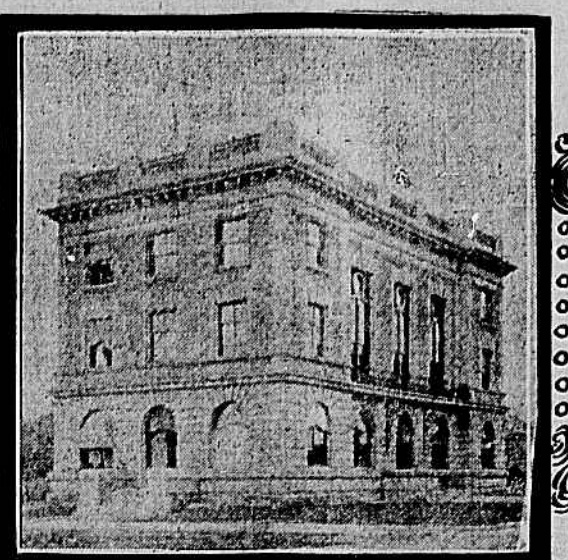
Farmers Make Experiment at Norfolk Which is Very Profitable.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
WILLIAMSBURG, VA., September 5.—Farmers at Norfolk, on the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway, in James City county, have experimented with tobacco culture this summer, and are so well pleased with the crop extensively next season. Old farmers from the Minnesota tobacco belt say that the James City crop was better than anything they saw in the Northwest. Already several sheds have been built, and more extensive preparations will be made for curing the crop.

## EVIDENCES OF SUBSTANTIAL PROSPERITY IN THE DOUBLE CITY OF BRISTOL



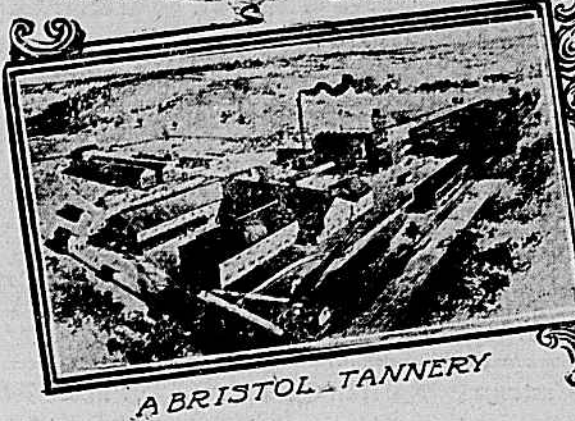
STATE STREET—VIRGINIA SIDE



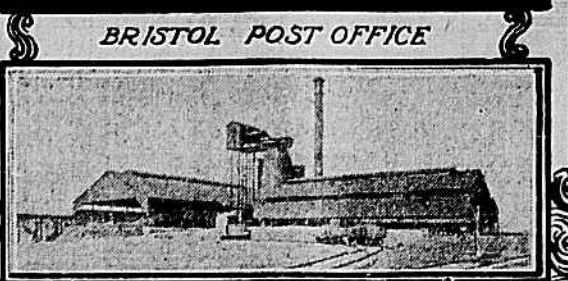
BRISTOL POST OFFICE



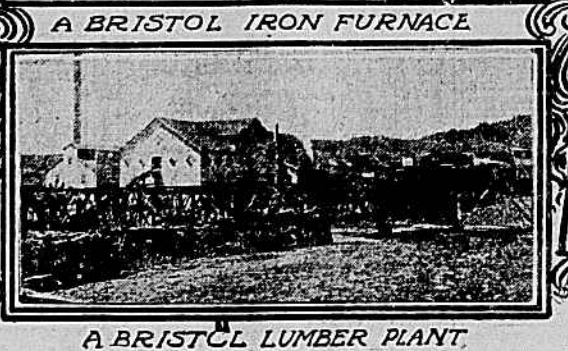
STATE STREET—TENNESSEE SIDE



A BRISTOL TANNERY



A BRISTOL IRON FURNACE



A BRISTOL LUMBER PLANT



BRISTOL PAPER & PULP MILLS

## OUTLOOK IS GOOD ALL OVER THE LAND

Large Concerns of Various Kinds Report Better Conditions and Brighter Outlook.

## STEADY ADVANCE IS SHOWN

Actual Increase in Orders Reported in Many Quarters and Optimism Felt as to 1909.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

BALTIMORE, September 5.—Twelve thousand words of special telegrams supplemented by letters in all filling seven or eight pages of this week's issue of the Manufacturers' Record from many of the foremost industrial concerns in the country, present an invaluable symposium on the business situation in the United States, present and prospective.

These telegrams are from such concerns as the Carnegie Steel Company, the Illinois Steel Company, the Tennessee Coal, Iron and Railroad Company and other subsidiaries of the United States Steel Corporation, the Pennsylvania Steel Company, the Republic Iron and Steel Company, the Sloss Iron and Steel Company, the Ashland Steel Company and the Inland Steel Company, large machinery building concerns of various kinds, construction companies, cement manufacturers, lumber manufacturers, makers and handlers of building material, engineers, contractors and others. Here is a wide range of industrial activities.

The territory covered is likewise broad-reaching, extending from New England to the far South, and from Dover, N. H., in the East, to Millison, Wis., and St. Louis, Chicago and Kansas City, in the West.

**Show Marked Improvement.**  
With but rare exceptions, these telegrams indicate a very marked improvement in the business outlook, evidenced either by an actual increase in orders or inquiries for materials, or by a steady advance toward a resumption of normal activities, with optimism as to 1909. This feeling is based upon unmistakable signs of the revival of building operations, especially in the Middle West, which means a widening market for materials in many lines, and indicates that the low price of materials and abundance of labor, and close figuring by contractors, are being taken advantage of, upon the fact that crops of different kinds are big enough to bring business gradually up to the conditions of 1908, and upon plenty of money in agricultural communities, the purchasing power of the farmers being not only unimpaired, but larger than ever. The movement of crops to the markets, of machinery and implements into communities, and of lumber, cement, iron, steel and other building materials is expected to aid in restoring the balance in the railroad situation.

When purchasing by the transportation companies on a large scale is resumed, when railroads are in a position to go ahead with contemplated improvements, the steel business, so dominant in American industry, will regain its strength and vitality. On this point Mr. H. P. Bove, vice-president of the Carnegie Steel Company, wires that the prospects for agricultural implement buying are the best in years, the outlook for crops is promising, the general business is undoubtedly good, and that only railroad

purchasing is needed to make the situation strong. The iron and steel men of the Birmingham district take courage from the collapse of the coal miners' strike, and President George G. Crawford, of the Tennessee Coal, Iron and Railroad Company, notes that during the depression the South produced more nearly its normal output in iron and steel than any other section of the country. The general situation is well epitomized in a telegram from a construction company of Worcester, Mass., to the effect that the promise of great crops, an abundant supply of money obtainable at low rates of interest, and the certain large requirements of our great railroad systems and industrial enterprises are some of the more prominent harbingers of renewed prosperity.

**Politics Not Retarding.**  
Though the imminence of the presidential election is regarded in some quarters as a drawback, in other quarters it is known to have been already discounted, there is less nervousness than was the case some time back, and confidence does not seem to be materially affected by the political campaign.

A few concerns report their August business as up to the normal, if not beyond it; one looks to a return of good times at automobile speed; another is preparing for more business than ever before; a third believes that there is plenty of business for the future, and that the time has come when it is known how to go after it, and a fourth is of the opinion that concerns suffering most at present "are those who became panic-stricken and went to extremes in minimizing expense by letting off salesmen, hiring cheaper labor, reducing their advertising expense, and figuratively crawling into a cyclone cellar."

The telegrams present a remarkable survey of the whole business situation of the country brought down to date.

## GOOD ROADS IN WISE

People of Richmond District to Vote on Issuing Bonds for Purpose.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
BIG STONE GAP, Sept. 5.—A movement is on foot in Richmond Magisterial District of Wise county, in which this town is located, with the best system of good roads in Southwest Virginia. It is proposed to call an election for the purpose of authorizing the issuance of \$100,000 bonds with which to do the work.

The town of Big Stone Gap is building a very expensive piece of road from the business section of the town to the limit of the corporation, a distance of a mile and a half. The county has appropriated \$3,000 to extend the road to Appalachia, a mile and a half further. Under the new plan it is proposed to extend the last named road from Appalachia to Stoneman, in man and timber, thus completely covering the district with up-to-date thoroughfares.

## TO MANUFACTURE MATERIALS FOR BUILDING OF HOUSES

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

SPOTSVYLDIA, VA., September 5.—Mr. Thomas R. Brown, formerly of Jefferson county, Pa., is now moving from Appalachia to Stoneman, in man and timber, thus completely covering the district with up-to-date thoroughfares.

**Alkali Plants Starting Up.**  
SALTVILLE, VA., September 5.—The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Matheson Alkali Works was held at the office of the company here on Thursday of this week. Only Messrs. J. S. Goetz and George E. Fein were in attendance. The usual business was attended to, and the old board of directors re-elected.

## TOWN OF URBANNA TAKES ON NEW LIFE

Prospects of the Railroad to West Point Gives New Impetus to Development.

## WILL BUILD HANDSOME HOME

Splendid Mansion to Replace Historic Hotel—Plans for New High School.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

URBANNA, VA., September 5.—The Urbanna Council, which was elected in June, met this week and organized by electing Robert S. Bristow president. The newly elected Mayor, B. Upton, at the same time was inducted into the office by taking the oath, and presided at the meeting. Four of the present Council are new members, and all of them being good business men, it is expected that they will impart new life and give an impetus to the business affairs of the town that will greatly advance its progress.

Since the engineers engaged in the work have now surveyed a line from West Point to this place and located the line through it to the banks of the Rappahannock there is substantial confidence in the building of the road on the part of our citizens, and as evidence of the fact that there have been numerous inquiries for property in the town and vicinity. It is hoped in the near future to see quite a number of new houses erected in the town and suburbs, as well as many of the old ones renovated.

The old Latham House, which was at one time the most noted hotel in the town, is being purchased by some of the Palmer family in whose possession it has been for many years back. The lot for the High School building has been located, surveyed and conveyed to the school trustees, and will be built upon in time for the school of 1909. The architect is expected soon to exhibit the plans and specifications, and as soon as they have been submitted to and approved by the board, no doubt efforts will be made to erect the building, but of course it cannot be completed before next spring. The board has the money in hand sufficient to justify the construction of a splendid building to cost \$7,000 to \$10,000. The lot is located in Rappahannock Avenue, beautifully situated, in full view of the river as it spreads out on its way to the Chesapeake Bay. A prettier lot could not have been selected for the purpose in this town.

## First Sales at Kenbridge.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

KENBRIDGE, VA., September 5.—The tobacco market opened at this place this week under very favorable conditions. While the farmers of this section have not cured very much tobacco as yet, there was sold about 20,000 pounds of the weed, most of which consisted of primings. The prices ranged from \$2.50 to \$3 per hundred.

Lane Brothers are now employing a double force of men at their crushing plant at this place, as they are running the plant both day and night. They expect to work about 250 men. With this the tobacco market, Kenbridge will soon forget hard times.

## BETTER TOBACCO COMING IN

First Offerings of the Regular Crop Sold in Virginia and Carolina.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

LYNCHBURG, September 5.—Offerings on the Lynchburg tobacco market this week were entirely of primings, some from most of the counties that sell on the Lynchburg market. They were generally of good size leaf, and with some body, which is a good indication that the crop of tobacco will be one of good size leaf, with good body. The weather for the past week has been very favorable for the tobacco in the field. There has been no rain, the nights have been cool, with heavy dews, and sunshine each day, which is very beneficial to the tobacco while maturing and being housed.

Prices were about as for the last two weeks, but the average may not be quite so high, as there has been rather more of the lower grades offered.

Sales of loose tobacco on the Lynchburg market for the two weeks ending September 4, 1908, as reported by John L. Oglesby, of Lynch's warehouse, were as follows:

	Pounds.
Sold week ending August 28th.	252,200
Sold week ending September 4th.	337,000
Decrease week ending September 4th.	\$4,300
Sold from August 17, 1908, to September 4, 1908.	652,100
Sold from September 1, 1907, to September 4, 1907.	56,400
Increase for 1908.	595,700

## Better Offerings at Danville.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

DANVILLE, VA., September 5.—As the farmers are busy cutting and curing the crop, the receipts have been small this week. The offerings still consist largely of primings, but more of the regular grades are now coming to market. No wrappers or any of the finer grades have as yet put in an appearance, except to a very limited extent.

Prices are firm and rule quite as high, if not higher, than the opening prices of last year's crop.

The continued rains have injured the crop more or less, and fair weather is much needed, especially at this time.

Trade in redried tobaccos is only fair, and sales continue to be of a retail character.

## Good Prices at Rocky Mount.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C., September 5.—Owing to the bad rainy weather for the past week, the receipts of tobacco have not been as full as they would have been otherwise. Still, the sales have been fairly good, considering the bad conditions of the weather and the fact that many farmers are taking advantage of the fair weather to pull fodder and do other necessary farm work. Sales for the week will amount to about 500,000 pounds. Primings still predominate in the offerings, though the proportion of this and good tobacco with body is on the increase all the time. The average price is much higher than it was last week, anything with body and character selling for outside prices.

## BILLION DOLLARS' WORTH OF COPPER

Enormous Mineral Deposits on the Congo-Zambesi Watershed.

## MAY AFFECT WORLD'S MARKET

Broken Hill Mines Worked by Native Labor—Mountains Tower Upon All Sides.

(Copyright, 1908, by Frank G. Carpenter.)

Broken Hill, N. W. Rhodesia. Have you heard of the mountains of copper which are now being developed just above here, in the heart of Central Africa? They cover a territory bigger than the State of Ohio, and they consist of two great belts 200 miles long. So far more than 100 copper mines have been discovered, and the mining engineers say that there are already more than 2,000,000 tons of copper in sight. They estimate the value of the ore exposed at over \$1,000,000,000. In the same region there are tin mines running through a belt of more than 150 miles. The tin is high grade, carrying the value of \$120 to the ton, and in sight is estimated at \$1,000,000,000. In addition to this there are gold mines there which are now yielding fully 1,000 ounces a month, and the gold carries platinum and palladium as by-products.

## The Tanganyika Concession.

These wonderful deposits are in what is known as the Tanganyika concession, a tract of country in the Congo Free State just across the Rhodesian border. They belong to the King of Belgium and a syndicate of English capitalists, led by Mr. Robert Williams, who was practically the discoverer of the mines and who organized the company eight or nine years ago. Mr. Williams became interested in the mines of Northern Rhodesia, and he got from Cecil Rhodes the right to locate 1,000 mining claims with the proviso that the Chartered Company of British South Africa was to be entitled to 35 per cent of all the mining proceeds. Since then the mines have been given to the concession because he wanted a steamboat on Lake Tanganyika to enable him to push his Cape to Cairo railroad scheme, and I am told that Mr. Williams furnished the boat.

Among the first deposits discovered were those of the Kinschanshi copper mine in Rhodesia, not far from the Belgian border. These have already been developed to the depth of 400 feet, and it has been decided to erect a smelter there, which in about two years will be yielding several million dollars per annum. In prospecting about Kinschanshi, Mr. Williams got a smelter there, which might be important finds over the border. He took his mining engineers and went on into the Congo Free State, and there found these enormous deposits, which promise to revolutionize the copper markets of the world. He then went back to London and formed his syndicate.

A concession was gotten from King Leopold by offering him and certain Belgian capitalists 55 per cent of the stock. Since then the mines have been partially surveyed and a railroad is now building which will connect them with the Atlantic in Portuguese West Africa. The capital stock is only \$4,000,000, but the possibilities of any company are far beyond those of any other in the great mining syndicates.

## A Continent Hoofed With Copper.

These mighty deposits form a copper roof to the lower part of the African continent. They lie on the edge of land between the Congo and the Zambesi, and in that correspond to the enormous mineral deposits on the west of land of once abundant. The great ridge of North America

(Continued on Third Page)

## TWIN CITY GROWS; FUTURE IS BRIGHT

Even in Year of Depression Business of Bristol, Shows Increase.

## LIES IN TWO STATES, BUT ONE IN ENERGY

People Pulling Together to Make Greater Bristol One of the South's Greatest Business and Manufacturing Centres—Fine Natural Advantages.

BY FRANK S. WOODSON.

(Industrial Editor.)

BRISTOL, VA.-TENN., September 5.—Sometimes—very often, in fact—you hear Bristol referred to as "the Twin City," and some people describe it as a kind of Siamese twin city. It is hardly a Siamese twin, for the hyphen which binds two distinct municipalities together as one is a State affair. And then twins, especially Siamese twins, could not have the same name.

I should think it would be proper to describe Bristol as a double-barreled city, for certainly there are two of them, and yet in a sense—in a commercial and industrial sense—they are most decidedly one.

It is true that State Street there is a line—an imaginary line—which divides Virginia from Tennessee. It may be remarked right here that there is to be found nowhere in either State a more businesslike thoroughfare, nor one that is more substantially built up, than this same State Street, the ligament which holds the Siamese twins together as one. There I have fallen into the error I have but a second ago condemned.

It is true that State Street has no actual skyscrapers; it does not need them, for the beautiful mountain peaks surrounding do the skyscraping not to perfection; but five-story bank buildings, lofty and commodious storehouses, splendid office buildings, beautiful churches, etc., are numerous, and they are of sufficiently imposing appearance and architectural beauty. They are also of ample room, and the business houses are supplied with all modern conveniences and appliances for the proper transaction of business. State Street is but a sample of other business thoroughfares.

There are, of course, two separate cities—one in Virginia and one in Tennessee—two municipal governments, two fire departments, two water supplies and sewerage systems, two public school systems, two courthouses, and, in fact, two of everything except the post-office and the wide-awake Board of Trade.

There is ample evidence that this double-barreled city arrangement is in many respects an advantage. Certainly there is, and ever has been, a generous rivalry between the two cities, and the rivalry is a good thing. If the Virginia side does something handsome in the way of public improvements, the Tennesseans on the other side will see to it that their Councilmen have no peace of mind until the rest of the body that the south side of the line shows up a shade better. This generous rivalry works the other way also.

## A New Word Coined.

As before said, there is but one post-office, but one Y. M. C. A. and one business organization is a huster. Its officers and membership are made up of the most wide-awake, active, progressive and aggressive Tennesseans and Virginians who can be found in the two cities. They pull together all the time for Greater Bristol. They have thus worked together and brought things to pass until they have given the very word Bristol a new meaning, and what is that definition? Bristol means a small, but great inland manufacturing city. Hard-working men and women make here with their hands and with their brains, the necessities and enjoyments of the world. The last report of the Board of Trade showed manufacturing done here to the amount of nearly \$10,000,000 a year.

It means a city with the best of transportation facilities. It means an immense jobbing, wholesale and retail trade, which distributes merchandise for the use of the people in a very large section of the country. Its merchants and business men are men of means and character, and from the beginning have been its leading men in public affairs, who enjoy the confidence of this portion of the South and the North.

The jobbing and retail business of Greater Bristol amounts to over \$12,000,000 each year. It means the greatest coal, coke, iron and lumber market of the section, the sales averaging \$9,000,000 annually. It means an intellectual centre, to which the presence of many churches, schools, colleges and two good newspapers testify.

It means a financial point, the nerve centre of which is controlled by its strong, conservative and well conducted banks. It means a most healthy location, with an altitude of 1,000 feet, where it is neither too hot nor too cold, and where the home can be established and maintained in ideal comfort.

## A Few Telling Facts.

Bristol passed through the late panic without a scratch or a scar. It is probably true that some lines of business may show a shortage during the past twelve months as against the previous twelve, yet the amount will be so small that it will hardly be noticeable.

Bristol and suburbs have a population of fully 18,000, of which 85 per cent is white.

I asked Colonel J. B. Peters, the general manager of Bristol's Board of Trade, if in his judgment Bristol was growing, or had it lost any during the financial depression. He replied that at first he feared they were losing a little, but during the last thirty days

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